## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application:

A. SANADA et al

Serial No. 09/987,815 Filed: November 16, 2001

Group Art Unit:

3627

Examiner:

F. Zender

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RENTAL STORAGE SYSTEM

## REQUEST FOR DIVISIONAL APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop Patent Application P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a request for filing a divisional application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/987,815, filed on November 16, 2001, entitled METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RENTAL STORAGE SYSTEM, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

- 1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.
  - The Filing Fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Basic Fee \$ 770.00 Total Claims 18 -20 0 x = \$ 0.00 18 Independent Claims 2 -84 3 0.00

Total Filing Fee

\$ 770.00

- 3. A Credit Card Payment Form including the amount of \$770.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.
- 3. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.
- 7. New drawings are enclosed, twelve (12) sheets, Figs. 1-17.
- 8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174 Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663 John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293 Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846 Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is no change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C. 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120.

## Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.

- 9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.
- 10. Priority of the following Japanese patent application is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 2001-117611, filed April 17, 2001.

The certified copy has been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed

in the present divisional application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/987,815, as originally filed on November 16, 2001.

Shrinath Malur

Registration No. 34,663

Attorney of Record

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120

Date: November 20, 2003

## LIST OF INVENTORS' NAMES AND ADDRESSES

Akemi SANADA, Tokyo, JAPAN
Hideo TABUCHI, Tokyo, JAPAN
Toshio NAKANO, Tokyo, JAPAN
Sajio ISHIZUKI, Tokyo, JAPAN
Isamu KAGE, Tokyo, JAPAN